

Introduced by Senator Mitchell

June 23, 2014

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 130—Relative to Civil Rights Act of 1964. .

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

SCR 130, as introduced, Mitchell. Civil Rights Act of 1964.

This measure would commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and encourage the citizens of California to observe the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as an important occasion in the history of the United States.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, On August 28, 1963, more than 200,000 people
2 participated in the March on Washington, D.C., to demonstrate
3 their support of civil rights for African-American citizens, and the
4 mass demonstration, as well as the violent attacks on peaceful
5 demonstrators in Birmingham, Alabama, in the spring of 1963,
6 galvanized support for national legislation against segregation,
7 causing a cataclysmic change in the political and social order in
8 America; and
9 WHEREAS, On July 2, 1964, President Lyndon Baines Johnson
10 signed the Civil Rights Act of 1964 into law, legislation proposed
11 by President John Fitzgerald Kennedy and the most sweeping civil
12 rights legislation since Reconstruction; and
13 WHEREAS, Upon the signing of the Civil Rights Act of 1964,
14 President Johnson addressed the American public on July 2, 1964,
15 stating that the newly passed act “does not restrict the freedom of
16 any American, so long as he respects the rights of others. It does

1 not give special treatment to any citizen. ... It does say that there
2 are those who are equal before God shall now also be equal in the
3 polling booths, in the classrooms, in the factories, and in hotels,
4 restaurants, movie theaters, and other places that provide service
5 to the public. ... This Civil Rights Act is a challenge to all of us to
6 go to work in our communities and our States, in our homes and
7 in our hearts, to eliminate the last vestiges of injustice in our
8 beloved country”; and

9 WHEREAS, The Civil Rights Act of 1964 subsequently has
10 been amended by the Congress of the United States to extend the
11 protections of the law to disabled Americans, the elderly, and
12 women in collegiate athletics programs; and

13 WHEREAS, In 2014, the nation will commemorate the 50th
14 anniversary of the landmark Civil Rights Act of 1964, which bans
15 segregation on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, or national
16 origin at all places of public accommodation and prohibits
17 discrimination by employers and labor unions and the use of federal
18 funds for any discriminatory program; and

19 WHEREAS, The Civil Rights Act of 1964 ended legal
20 segregation, and it is fitting and appropriate that the enactment of
21 this historic legislation be commemorated in the State of California;
22 now, therefore, be it

23 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
24 *thereof concurring*, That the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights
25 Act of 1964 hereby be commemorated and the citizens of the state
26 be encouraged to observe this important occasion in the history of
27 the nation; and be it further

28 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
29 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.